

AD HOC COMMITTEE
CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE

Special Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monique Burns, Bill Merson, Dave Arzt, Roger Hosig,
Jeanne Burns

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Vic Laptic and Members of Waters Edge Suction Harvesting
Company: Bruce Lockhart, Jason Houghtaling, and Cesar
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CALL TO ORDER:

Dave Arzt, Ad Hoc Chairmen called meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. at the Town Hall 55 Main Street, Ellington, Ct.

CITIZEN FORUM: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

PRESENTATION – WATERS EDGE, SUCTION HARVESTING COMPANY:

1. Bruce Lockhart opened up his presentation by discussing the report we all received from Northeast Aquatic Research, George W. Knoecklin. In Georges' report he categorized the milfoil infestation into three categories; low density, medium density and high density. Please refer to the attached report. Bruce stated that each classification had its own particular issues regarding what the fee would be for each. Basically, we have some advantages with the Crystal Lake. One is that the water is so clear it makes finding the plants very easy as well as differing them from other good plants that we don't want to remove. The other advantage is that the lake bottom is mostly gravel which makes it very easy to remove the entire plant and have a better chance of leaving little to no roots behind. In a clay or rocky lake bottom, removal of the plant in its entirety is difficult.
2. It is the goal of Bruce and his crews to clear 1000sf/hr using three-two man crews working 8 hour days for three weeks in the high density areas of the open body of the lake. Removal of milfoil in the open areas will go a long way to minimizing new infestations because we will no longer have as many boats cutting up the milfoil. The cove areas will have to wait for another time.
3. Bruce suggested that we install blankets in the pond across from Crystal Lake Beach. This would also go a long way to minimizing the re-infestation of the lake. Another idea Bruce presented was to monitor the inlet from the pond using a turbidity barrier to catch any milfoil sprigs from flowing into the main body of the lake. This barrier would have to be monitored on a semi regular basis.
4. At this point we are looking at disposal of the milfoil after it's been removed from the Lake being performed by volunteers. The disposal sight will be the Town of Ellington's brush dump on Hoffman Road. The company will give us a 10% discount for

performing this work. Jason gave a rate for this service of \$1,440.00/day for one two man crew. A total of \$64,800.00.

5. Jason gave a disk to Bill Merson with a copy of their company's typical contract for our review and modification. Water's Edge carries 5 million dollars insurance coverage which is more than required for contractors working for the Town of Ellington.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWER DISCUSSION ABOUT PRESENTATION:

1. All agreed that installation of the blankets was a good idea.
2. Jeanne Burns contacted her husband Guy Burns to see if their dump trailer could be used to dispose of the milfoil. Guy said that it could be used so long as the timing was right and that it didn't interfere with on going work of his company.
3. Dave Arzt suggested that we bring up the issue of having volunteers available to help at the next Crystal Lake Meeting to be held on July 22, 2009.
4. All agreed with Bruce's recommendation and George's report to remove the milfoil in the open waters first. Everyone also agreed that it was important to start removal at the beach and in front of the north cove on the first couple of days.


TASK UPDATE:

1. Rodger Hosig stated that Water's Edge was a better rate than the one company he called. Rodger called Aquatics Endeavors twice on June 19, 2009 and June 30, 2009 and got no response. He also called Invasive Aquatics on the same two dates with no response. The only company in the surrounding New England states who perform suction harvesting to have called him back was Lycott Environmental. Mr. Lee Lyman, owner of the company stated a production rate of 6 working hours and 2 mobilization hours each date at a rate of \$1,700/day for a two man crew. This company has removed milfoil in Lake George NH.
2. Monique will ask Joe Ryan, Town of Ellington Attorney about bonding and insurance requirements. Monique will also contact Lisa Houlihan, Assistant Town Planner and ask if any permits are required for the installation of blankets in the pond.
3. Dave will check with Mr. Fetko about if the town has a dump trailer we could use and the possibility of installing the turbidity fence and monitoring it.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (M. BURNS), SECONDED (B. MERSON) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THIS MEETING AT 10:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted


Monique G. Burns

Northeast Aquatic Research

74 Higgins Highway
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
860 - 456 - 3179

July 1, 2009

Crystal Lake Association

RE: Distribution of Variable-leaved Milfoil in Crystal Lake.

Dear Sirs:

Attached are four maps showing the mapping results of variable-leaved milfoil in Crystal Lake, one overview map showing the whole lake, and three detail maps showing the north end, the northeastern cove area, and the south end. Surveys were conducted on June 26, and June 30, 2009. The milfoil is shown in three different density classes. The densities refer to approximate density, how many plants, and abundance, how much plant material is present within unit area.

High Density means that plants covered over 75 % of the bottom area and that the plants that were present were robust and tall, sometimes almost reaching the surface.

Medium Density means that plants covered between 25 % and 75% of the bottom area and consisted of clumps of plants that could be large but typically were not as tall as those in the high-density category. In some cases, the coverage was less but the plants that were present were large clumps.

Low Density means that plants were scattered over the bottom with varying coverage. In some areas the plants were present as small plants of about 12 to 18 inch single shoots that occurred about once in 10 to 20 square feet. In other areas, plants were more concentrated perhaps a few plants per 10 square feet, with multiple shoots of about the same height, 12 to 18 inches.

Totals for each category are:

High Density	= 5.8 acres
Medium Density	= 3.3 acres
<u>Low Density</u>	<u>= 8.5 acres</u>
Total	= 17.6 acres

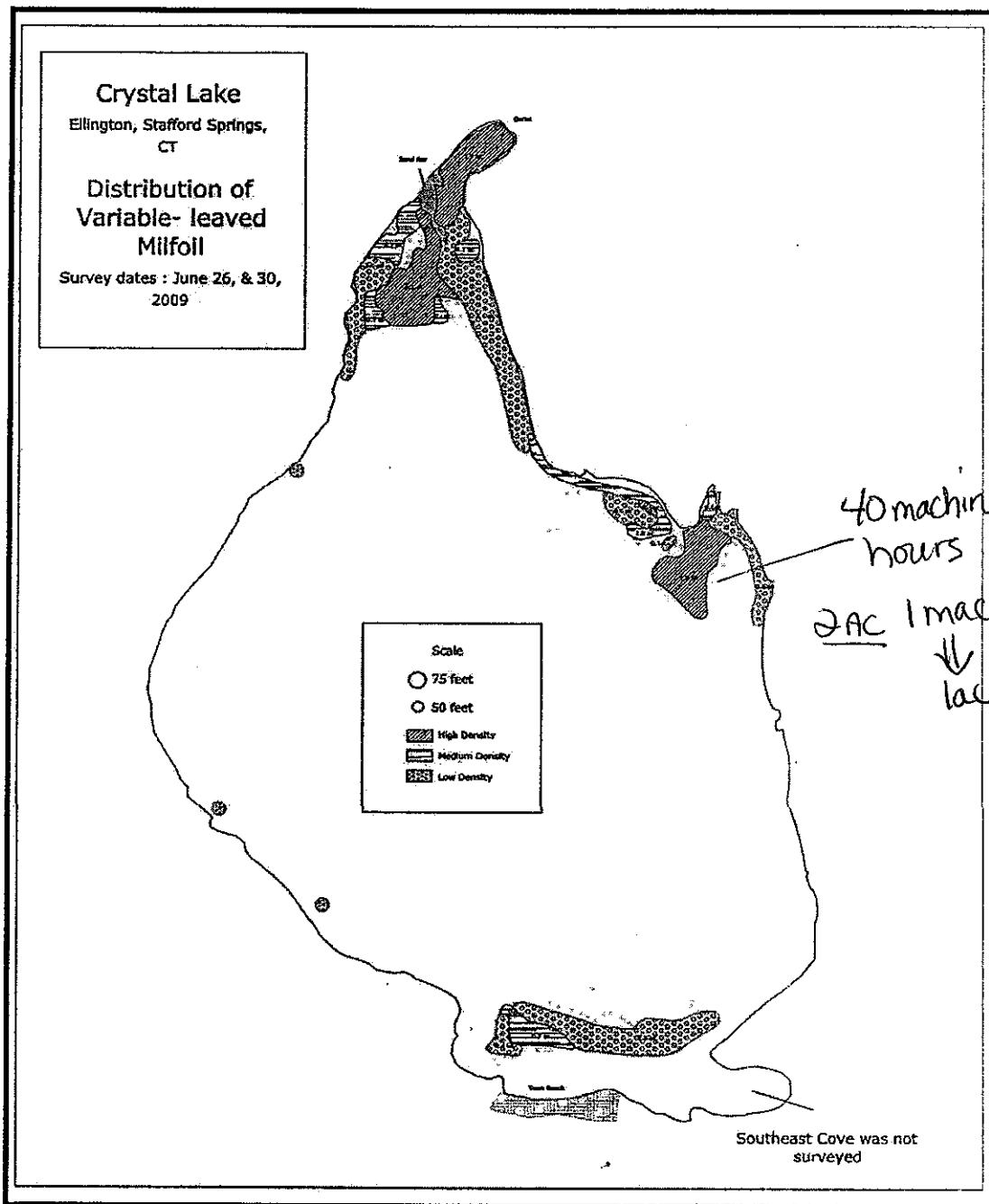
) - different
rate per
density

This does not include plant coverage in the Southeast Cove at Aborn Brook, nor does it include plants in the Northeast Cove.

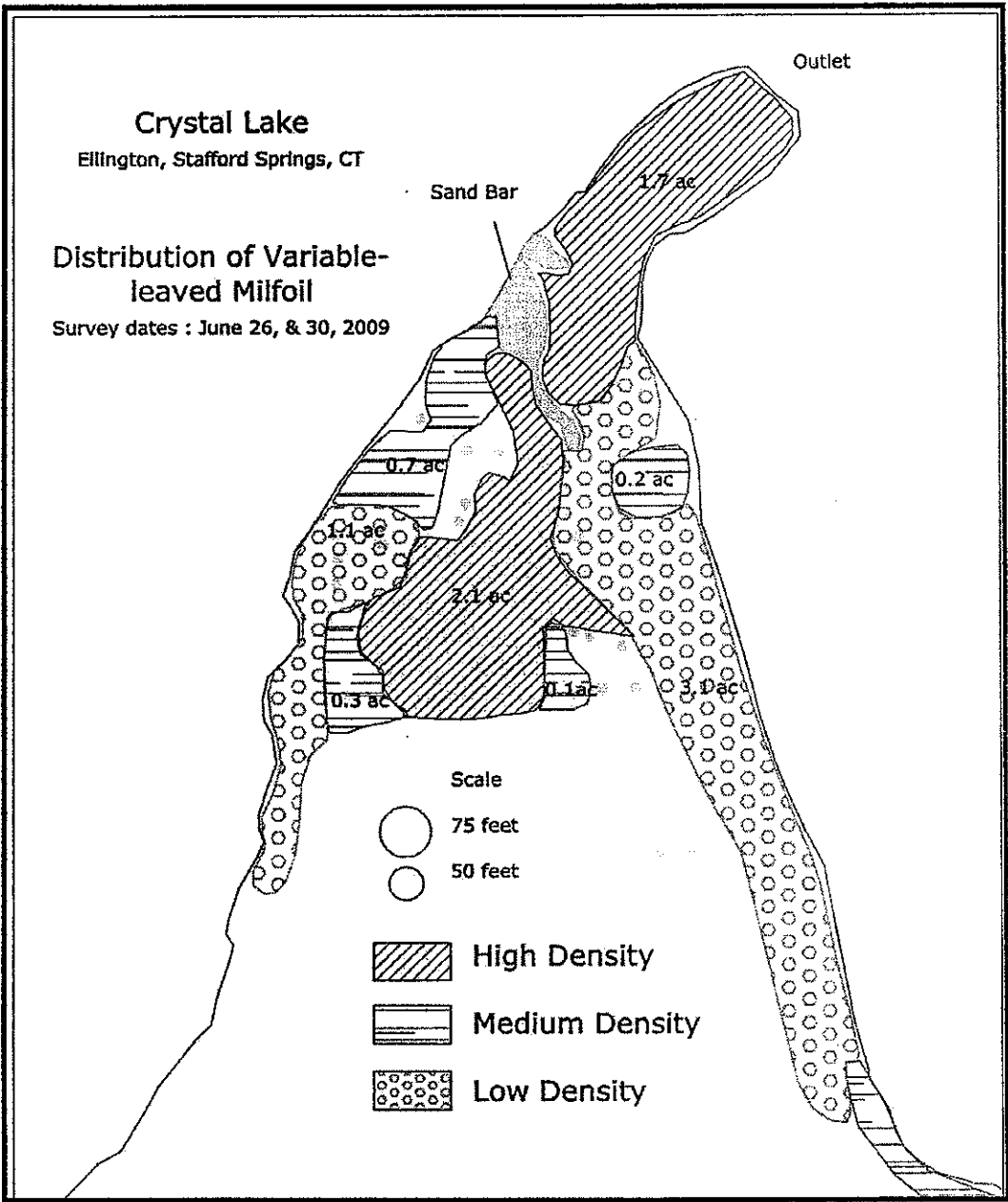
If I can be of any further assistance please let me know.

George W. Knoecklein

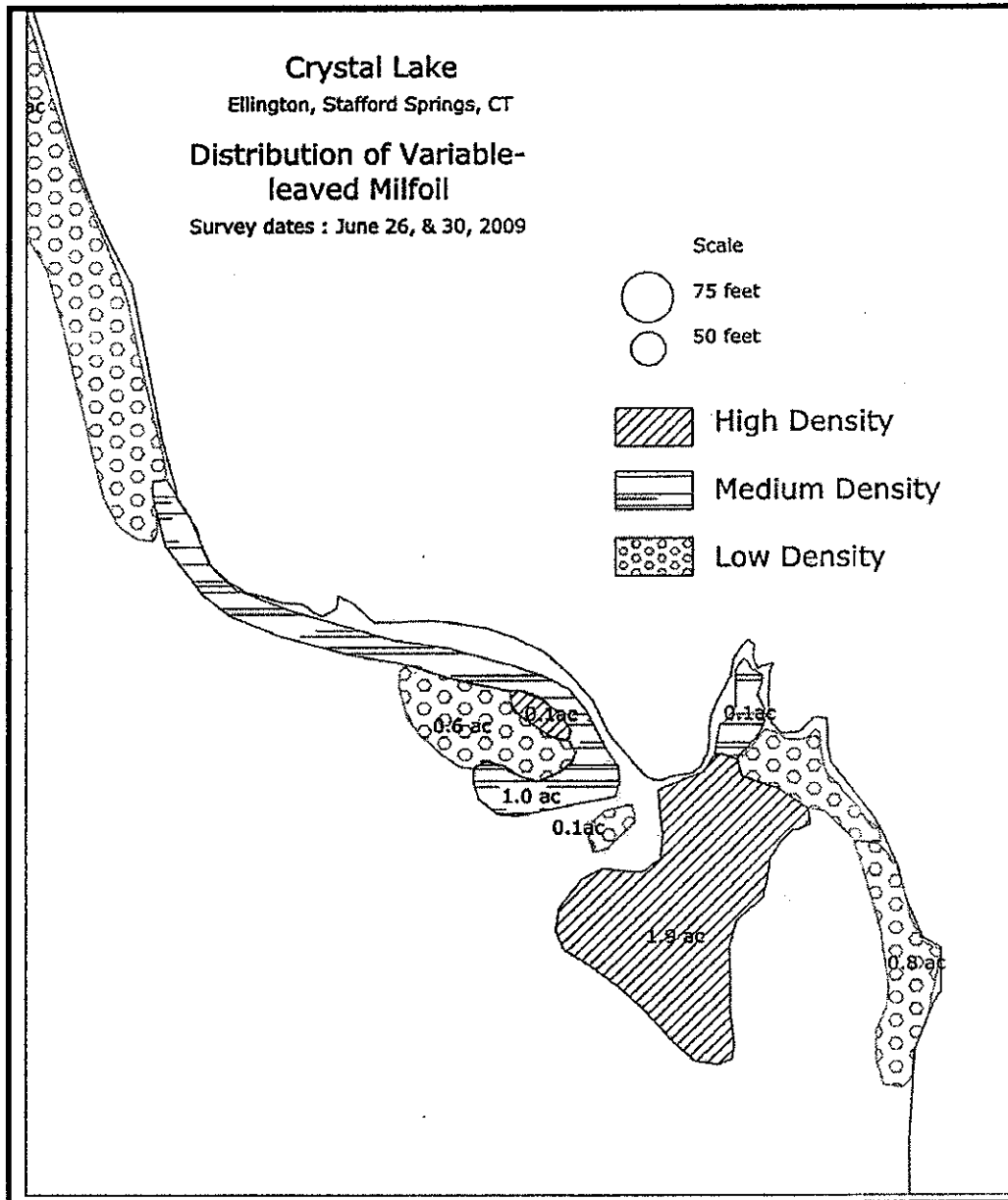
Crystal Lake Overview.



Detail of the north end of the lake.



Detail of the northeastern cove area of the lake.



Detail of south end of the lake.

